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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/762,871	01/21/2004	James S. Voss	200300324-1	5943

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EXAMINER

CUTLER, ALBERT H

ART UNIT.	PAPER NUMBER
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2622

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	04/27/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/762,871	Applicant(s) VOSS ET AL.	
	Examiner Albert H. Cutler	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 21 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-9 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 21 January 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This office action is responsive to application 10/762,871 filed on January 21, 2004. Claims 1-9 are pending in the application and have been examined by the examiner.

Information Disclosure Statement

2. The Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) mailed on July 6, 2004 was received and has been considered by the examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. The factual inquiries set forth in *Graham v. John Deere Co.*, 383 U.S. 1, 148 USPQ 459 (1966), that are applied for establishing a background for determining obviousness under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) are summarized as follows:

1. Determining the scope and contents of the prior art.
2. Ascertaining the differences between the prior art and the claims at issue.
3. Resolving the level of ordinary skill in the pertinent art.
4. Considering objective evidence present in the application indicating obviousness or nonobviousness.

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5. Claims 1-5,⁷_A and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikari et al.(US Patent Application Publication 2004/0008274) in view of Kishimoto et al.(US Patent 5,895,128).

Consider claim 1, Ikari et al. teach:

A device having a still mode and a video mode(paragraph 0029), comprising:
a body(101, figure 1, paragraph 0031);
a strobe(flash unit, 103, figures 1, 2, and 6) mechanically coupled to said body(see figures 1 and 2), configured to operate during said still mode(paragraph 0049); and
at least one LED(104, figures 1, 2, and 6, paragraph 0031) mechanically coupled to said body(see figures 1 and 2), configured to operate during said video mode(paragraphs 0045-0046).

However, Ikari et al. do not explicitly teach that said strobe is a strobe tube.

Kishimoto et al. is similar to Ikari et al. in that Kishimoto et al. teach of using multiple light sources in photography including a flash unit(1, figure 1) and an LED unit(42, figure 9) mechanically coupled to a camera body(column 8, lines 43-48).

However, in addition to the teachings of Ikari et al., Kishimoto et al. teach that said strobe is a strobe tube(Kishimoto et al. teach of using a xenon strobe tube as the flash, column 3, lines 3-10).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a xenon strobe tube as taught by Kishimoto et al. as

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the strobe taught by Ikari et al. for the benefit that a xenon strobe tube provides a high intensity of light, and the duration of the flash that is emitted by a xenon flash tube can be accurately controlled to compensate for different lighting conditions and avoid under- or over-exposure.

Consider claim 2, and as applied to claim 1 above, Ikari et al. further teach of a switch configured to switch said device between said still mode and said video mode(A main power switch(105, figure 4) allows a user to switch between still/video mode and other modes such as a playback mode, paragraph 0033. Further, a user can use a still image trigger(i.e. a still mode control mechanically coupled to said body 106, figure 4) or a motion image trigger(i.e. a video mode control mechanically coupled to said body 107, figure 4) to switch between a still mode and a motion mode respectively, paragraph 0034.).

Consider claim 3, and as applied to claim 1 above, Ikari et al. further teach of a control configured to switch said device between said still mode and said video mode(Camera Control Unit, 139, figure 6, paragraph 0040).

Consider claim 4, and as applied to claim 1 above, Ikari et al. further teach at least one flash control input configured to receive a mode signal from a digital camera and switch said device between said still mode and said video mode(The camera control unit(139) provides different flash control inputs to the flash device(103) and

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subject illumination light(104), paragraph 0040. These control signals are based on signals received from the rotating main power switch(105), the still image trigger button(106), and the motion image trigger button(107), paragraphs 0033-0034. The still image trigger button(106) and motion image trigger button(107) switch between still mode and video mode.).

Consider claim 5, and as applied to claim 4 above, Ikari et al. do not explicitly teach that said flash control input is configured to electrically couple to a hot shoe.

However, Kishimoto et al. teach that said flash control input is configured to electrically couple to a hot shoe(Kishimoto et al. teach of a hot shoe(10, figure 1, column 5, lines 14-18) which electrically connects the electronic flash(1) with the camera. This electronic connection enables data communication between the flash and the camera main body. Kishimoto et al. teach that a camera control unit(29, figure 9, column 7, lines 49-55) controls the photographing operation of the camera(20), and communicates with the flash(1) via the hot shoe(10).).

Consider claim 7, and as applied to claim 1 above, Ikari et al. teach of using a flash, and of using LED's(see claim 1 rationale). Ikari et al. do not explicitly teach of reflectors mechanically couple to the body of the camera.

Kishimoto et al. teach of a first reflector mechanically coupled to said body, configured to reflect light from said strobe tube onto a photographic subject(The xenon

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strobe tube(144, figure 9) of Kishimoto et al. has a semicircle shaped reflector to direct light from the strobe tube toward a subject(see figure 9).); and

a second reflector mechanically coupled to said body, configured to reflect light from said at least one LED onto a photographic subject(Kishimoto et al. teach that the at least one LED(421, figure 9) is contained in a light unit(42, figure 9) which has a back and sides for reflecting the light toward a subject(see figure 9).).

Consider claim 8, and as applied to claim 1 above, Ikari et al. do not explicitly teach that said strobe tube is a xenon strobe tube. However, Kishimoto et al. teach that said strobe tube is a xenon strobe tube(Kishimoto et al. teach of using a xenon strobe tube as the flash, column 3, lines 3-10).

6. Claim 6 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikari et al. in view of Kishimoto et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Takami(US Patent 5,463,437).

Consider claim 6, and as applied to claim 1 above, Ikari et al. teach of using a flash, and of using LED's(see claim 1 rationale). Ikari et al. do not explicitly teach of reflectors mechanically couple to the body of the camera.

Kishimoto et al. teach that the strobe tube has a reflector coupled to said body, configured to reflect light from said strobe tube(The xenon strobe tube(144, figure 9) of Kishimoto et al. has a semicircle shaped reflector to direct light from the strobe tube

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toward a subject(see figure 9). Kishimoto et al. teach that the at least one LED(421, figure 9) is contained in a light unit(42, figure 9) which has a back and sides for reflecting the light toward a subject(see figure 9).).

However, the combination of Ikari et al. and Kishimoto et al. does not explicitly teach a single reflector coupled to said body reflects both the light from the strobe tube and the light from the at least on LED.

Takami is similar to Ikari et al. in that Takami deals with lighting in a camera system that includes both a strobe and an auxiliary LED light unit(column 7, line 63 through column 8, line 3). Takami is further similar to the combination of Ikari et al. and Kishimoto et al. in that a hot shoe connects the lighting unit to a camera(column 7, lines 63-66).

Takami teaches that a single reflector(see figure 7) coupled to a body reflects both light from a strobe tube(36) and the light from at least one LED(37), column 7, line 63 through column 8, line 61.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in that art at the time of the invention to include a reflector as taught by Takami for reflecting the light of the strobe tube and LED as taught by the combination of Ikari et al. and Kishimoto et al. for the benefit of providing a strobe-incorporated camera which can be easily handled, effectively fulfilling the strobe function, and can reduce the possibility of failure or miss in photographing(Takami, column 2, lines 41-49).

7. Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ikari et al. in view of Kishimoto et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Yuyama et al.(US Patent Application Publication 2002/0191102).

Consider claim 9, and as applied to claim 1 above, Ikari et al. teach that said LED is a high-intensity LED(paragraph 0031). However, the combination of Ikari et al. and Kishimoto et al. does not explicitly teach that said at least one LED is a white LED.

Yuyama et al. is similar to Ikari et al. in that a camera with a lighting device is used(see Title). Yuyama et al. is further similar in that at least one LED is used as a lighting device(paragraph 0073).

However, in addition to the teachings of Ikari et al., Yuyama et al. teach that said at least one LED is a white LED(paragraph 0073).

Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use a white LED as taught by Yuyama et al. as the at least one LED taught by the combination of Ikari et al. and Kishimoto et al. for the benefit that a single white LED can be used in place of several colored LED's and thus allow simple operation, fewer parts, a small size, reduced power consumption, and reduced noise(Yuyama, paragraph 0073).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Albert H. Cutler whose telephone number is (571)-270-1460. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (7:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ngoc-Yen Vu can be reached on (571)-272-7320. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

AC

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ngoc-Yen Vu', is written over the printed name.

NGOC-YEN VU
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER